Turin
Urban and Transport Transformations

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This presentation illustrates an example of planning practice where transport, land use and environmental issues are integrated - *The Central Backbone Project*.

This project aims at creating the conditions for a new kind of relationship and interaction between public transport, land use and environment.

In this context, *accessibility is considered as the basic element for the renewal and development of the city* but no instruments for measuring accessibility have been explicitly used, so far, in the design phase of the project. As the Project is still on-going, indications raising from accessibility instruments can still be taken into consideration and applied in order to make corrections or suggest implementations.
Greetings from Torino and its natural and cultural environment
Torino’s Urban renewal and Cross-City railway link.
A planning practice based on integration of land use and transport.

The context
- Geographical
- Socio-economical

The general strategy
- The Vision
- The Master Plan and the “Backbone Project”

The Backbone Project
- The Cross-city railway link
- The Urban Boulevard
- The Redevelopment Areas
GEOGRAPHICAL CONTEXT
Geographical Context: Torino in Europe
Geographical Context:

Castrum romanum as a gate of the Roman Empire

Memory over time
Roman Empire: Torino, the Gate to France and Spain
The Future: Torino in the core of European Corridor V (east-west high speed railway line)
Geographical Context:
Torino between mountains and hills
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Torino between mountains and hills
SOCIO ECONOMIC CONTEXT
Torino a typical twentieth Century industrial City
The decline of the Industrial Era (Structural Recession of FIAT)

- End of the “one-company town” model
- Unemployment
- Abandoned urban areas

Employees - Turin Area

Socio-economical context

Torino 1985
Industrial Vacant Areas
1993 – Political administrative Turning point

Directly-elected Mayor with specific strategic programme for a new kind of development of the city
The Vision: Strategic Programme

KEY ELEMENTS:

ISSUES

• From the one company town to several entrepreneurial initiatives in innovative areas. Cultural and scientific resources are valorized (education and research)

• new infrastructures,

• reuse of old industrial areas,

• new urban landscape

• public spaces

• Urban requalification and social inclusion

• Use of a Great Event to reposition Torino on the World Map

INSTRUMENTS

1st Strategic Plan and ITP (Investment in Turin and Piedmont) Agency

→ New Urban Masterplan and the “Backbone project”

→ Neighborhood Regeneration Plan

→ 2006 Winter Olympic Games
NEW URBAN MASTER PLAN

&

THE “BACKBONE PROJECT”
Strategy: key elements
- Reuse of vacant areas
- Safeguard of green areas and creation of a system of green areas and parks
- Avoid development on greenfields
- Compact city and Transit Oriented Development (TOD)
- Rehabilitation of peripheral settlements

Action
- Empowerment of railway system and reuse of abandoned industrial areas

Project
New Backbone
(Cross city railway link, regeneration areas, boulevard and green areas)
New Urban Masterplan & the “Backbone Project”
1993-1995

General Masterplan

Backbone Project

Cross city railway link (Passante)

Redevelopment areas

Environmental riqualification (parks, boulevards, squares and green areas)
Elements of the “Spina Centrale”  
(Central Backbone)

- The Cross City Railway Link (“Passante”) 12 Km mostly underground
- Urban boulevard North-to-South over the railway track (50-60 meters large).
- A system of old industrial areas (brownfields) transformed to mixed-use development areas 2 millions of sqm

**Effects on the urban structure**

- Integration of different components of the urban structure.
- New urban spaces and a new image of the city
- The boulevard connects the “urban wastelands” creating new centers of activity
- Each area is served by stations of the metropolitan railway service and is connected to the urban transportation system
CROSS CITY RAILWAY LINK
A new underground tunnel hosts the empowered railway allowing to connect the two sides of the city, now divided by the railway.

The new railway lines become the main axe of the metropolitan railway system and of the national and international connections.

The new railway lines are integrated with the new underground metro (subway lines)
Cross City Railway Link

Backbone as the Central node of the Metropolitan railway System

Legenda
- Stazioni ferroviarie
- Linee ferroviarie

Confini comuinali
RES
- 48 - 5000
- 5001 - 20000
- 20001 - 35000
- 35001 - 70000
- 70001 - 140000
- 140001 - 900608

Scheme

1:100.000
Cross City Railway Link in the National and International railway system

FRANCE

Central Backbone

European Corridor V

LEGEND

- Railway system
- Metro lines 1 and 2
- High Speed Railway
- Freight Railway

Torino, 16/02/2012
Mostly underground and covered by an urban boulevard
The railway is underground and covered by a new urban boulevard.
Technical elements and costs

- Cross city railway length (*Passante*): 12 Kms
- Underground covered lines (*Tunnel*): 7,5 Kms
- Maximum depth: 18 m
- Number of tracks: 4/6
- Number of Stations: 7
- Boulevard length: 7,5 Kms
- Boulevard width: 50-90 m
- Initial costs: 1,3 billions €
- Cost after project changes: 1,6 billions €
Cross City Railway Link
Work in progress

Before

Work in progress

Works started
REDEVELOPMENT AREAS

Four new centralities
along the cross city railway link
Redevelopment areas along the Backbone boulevard

Backbone Redevelopment areas 2.100.000 sqm
Besides the Central Backbone, containing four redevelopment areas ("Spine"), the cross city railway link involves other vacant areas creating further centrality occasions.

- **Southwards** it reaches the former Fiat Lingotto Plant, as well as the area of the former Wholesale Metropolitan Market and the former Fiat Avio Plant;

- **Northwards** it reaches the Stura railway station and the industrial areas of the neighboring town (Settimo).
URBAN BOULEVARD

New images of public spaces, above the railway lines, connecting the redevelopment areas
The boulevard
7,5 Kms, 4200 trees, 4800 shrubs a new urban image for the city’s spaces
Urban boulevard
Land art, gardens and pedestrian spaces
Summarizing the main elements of Central Backbone Project:

- Empowerment (north-south) of railway infrastructure (12 km)
- Brownfields requalification (2.1 millions of sqm)
- Reconnections (east-west) of the city
- New axe (boulevard) connecting the redevelopment areas
- A new image of the whole public areas (boulevard, park and green areas, cycle track,....)
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!